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THE MORNING NEWS

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First Carubian Festival tentatively scheduled to open May 5



Ramon Arindell at beginning of beautification project

The greatly anticipated commencement of the Carubian Festival in San Nicolas has been delayed for the most part because of the time it is taking to complete work on custom made tents for housing the many amenities the weekly criollo event will offer. However, the organizing committee is moving ahead with the hope to have everything ready for a Thursday, May 5 inaugural event.

President of the Carubian (a co-joining of Caribbean and Aruba) Festival Committee, Ramon Arrindell, expressed the tentative optimism that the specially wrought tents, which proved far less costly if produced off-island, will be ready by the end of April.

It was Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber, who conceptualized this weekly event as

a way for island visitors to enjoy a taste of all Caribbean cultures while traveling no further than the east end of Aruba.

San Nicolas inhabitants enjoy a unique mix of regional cultures, many of them second or third generation, whose parents or grandparents immigrated to Aruba to find work at the refinery or in a booming tourism industry. From one generation to the next they have often maintained the cultural elements of music, dance, traditions and cuisine of their homelands, which will be featured aspects of the Carubian Festival.

San Nicolas has been going through a beautification process, and for the weekly festival the main street from CMB Bank to Charlie's Bar will be a pedestrian walk lined with food and refreshment booths,

handicraft shops and an organized art display, with a central stage featuring a number of performers providing insight into the music and dance of the various islands from which they or the parents originated.

Local and time-tested "Bush Teas" that are not only refreshing but holistically healing will be on the menu, providing an authentic island experience for visitors to the festival.

De Palm Tours will be the principal retailer for the Carubian Festival, selling various packages that provide transport to and from resorts including entrance fee; Arubus will also provide either transport alone or package tickets including food and beverage, for island residents.

Continued on page 5

Your 'Healthy Barrio' launched on World Health Day



Every 7th of April the world stops long enough to celebrate World Health Day commemorating the founding in 1950 of the World Health Organization/WHO. Every year special attention is given to the important topic of health on this day. Aruba this year chose to prolong last year's theme, namely, "Urbanization and Health."

This year Minister of Public Health and Sports, Richard Visser, organized a lecture and workshop for employees of the Department of Public Health, IDEFRE, White Yellow Cross, Red Cross and SVB with the intention of launching the "Bo Barrio Saludabel" (Your Healthy Barrio) project.

The Minister opened the day highlighting the impor-

tance of each of our health professionals' roll in contributing to the health of each citizen on Aruba. Health, according to the minister, is the result of a combination of factors where both infrastructure and the environment play an important roll. If the barrio where you live is not equipped with adequate and safe places to jog, ride a bicycle or do exercise, or if there isn't sufficient illumination at night and if the traffic situation is unsafe, all of this will invariably have an affect on the health of the inhabitants of that barrio. There must also be certain health services accessible to the residents of the barrio.

Continued on page 5



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

24 Syrian protesters killed: rights activist



Image grab taken by Syrian state television -AFP

DAMASCUS (AFP) - At least 24 protesters were killed on Friday as anti-regime demonstrations and clashes with security forces raged around Syria, the head of the National Organisation for Human Rights said.

"We have the names of 19 demonstrators killed in Daraa,

and we have been told of the deaths of two protesters in Homs and three in Harasta," Qurabi told AFP by telephone from Cairo, where he lives in exile.

"We are aware that live bullets, tear gas and another gas that causes fainting were used," he added.

Qurabi's report was more or less in line with other activists, who earlier said 13 protesters had been killed in the flashpoint southern town of Daraa, a number of people wounded in the central industrial city of Homs and also spoke of fighting in Harasta, a Damascus suburb.

The official SANA news agency said 19 members of the security forces were killed and 75 were wounded by "armed groups" in Daraa.

Amnesty International said it had confirmed eight people were killed in protests on Friday, six in Daraa and two in Homs.

"The alarming reports coming from Syria today show that the authorities have not altered their violent methods for dealing with dissent," said Philip Luther, Amnesty's Deputy Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme.

An activist asking not to be named for security reasons told AFP the people in Daraa were killed when security forces opened fire with rubber bullets and live rounds to disperse stone-throwing protesters.

"Thousands of demonstrators leaving from three mosques marched to the courthouse but security forces dressed in civilian clothing fired tear gas to disperse them," said the activist.

Amnesty put the overall figure now at at least 171 people.

Venezuela worse, Colombia better on rights, says US

WASHINGTON, (AFP) - Human rights conditions worsened over the past year in Venezuela and remained high in Cuba, but improved in Colombia, the US State Department said Friday in an annual review.

The annual US report on human rights practices cited a mixed picture in Latin America.

Nicaragua was cited along with Venezuela as a country where respect for human rights worsened.

In Venezuela, ruled by firebrand President Hugo Chavez, the US cited a litany of abuses including "unlawful killings, including summary executions of criminal suspects; widespread criminal kidnappings for ransom; prison violence and harsh prison conditions."

Although the government was not directly responsible

for politically motivated killings, the report said Venezuelan security forces "were accused of committing unlawful killings, including summary executions of criminal suspects."

In Nicaragua, "the most significant human rights abuses during the year included restrictions of citizens' right to change their government and widely reported voting fraud in regional elections," the State Department said.

It also cited "occasional unlawful killings by security forces," harsh and overcrowded prison conditions, "lack of respect for the rule of law" and widespread corruption.

In Colombia the Santos government "made demonstrable advances in improving the human rights environ-

ment" and implemented new policies to accelerate the return of land to displaced families.

Still, Colombia faces ongoing human rights violations stemming from the long war with leftist guerrillas, the US report said, adding that "there were instances in which elements of the security forces acted independently of civilian control."

Cuba remained weak in respect for human rights despite Havana's agreement to free a number of dissidents, the report said.

Rights abuses in Cuba included "harassment, beatings, and threats against political opponents" and the government's "pervasive monitoring of private communications" along with "severe limitations on freedom of speech and press."

EU warns climate talks too slow



European Commissioner in charge of climate policy Connie Hedegaard.

(AFP) - The European Union warned Friday that diplomacy on climate change was moving too slowly after UN-led talks in Bangkok eked out an agreement on an agenda for further negotiations this year.

"Our overall sense is things are moving slow, too slow for Europe's taste. And

we cannot achieve what we need to achieve before the end of this year with this speed," EU Climate Commissioner Connie Hedegaard said.

"Too often too much time is spent on how to proceed," she told reporters on a visit to Washington. "What we need is to come down to the content side of this and that is urgent."

The four-day session in Bangkok, which was marked by feuds between wealthy and developing countries, eventually achieved its goal of setting an agenda leading up to an annual UN climate conference in South Africa in November.

But the Bangkok talks largely put aside big picture issues on how nations will cut their greenhouse gas emis-

sions blamed for global warming.

Hedegaard said it was critical to move soon on cutting emissions, pointing out that national pledges have not come close to the UN-led goal of containing global warming to no more than 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit).

"What people sometimes forget is that there is a time factor when we talk about the climate. It actually does matter whether we start acting globally sooner or later," she said.

The European Union has championed international action on climate change, including through its "cap-and-trade" system that restricts carbon emissions but allows businesses to trade in credits.

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RBTT Bank honors International Day of Autism



The Autism Foundation of Aruba recently received great support from local RBTT Bank. With the theme 'Light it up Blue' the Autism Foundation placed emphasis on the observance of the international day of Autism. RBTT Bank provided the foundation with commemorative T-Shirts for the day.

RBTT Bank expressed their satisfaction for contributing to the excellent work of the Foundation. The Bank is pleased with the support and information given to parents and children, and with the awareness program that the Foundation is engaged in year round with respect to Autism.

All employees of the bank donned their Autism T-Shirts in support of the Foundation and as an awareness of Autism to all their clients.

The RBTT Bank also invited representatives of the Autism Foundation to the Bank to receive a donation and to show off bank employees in their 'Light it up Blue' T-Shirts. A group of employees with their autistic children recited a poem about Autism for all those present. The occasion resulted in a rather emotional and intriguing afternoon.

RBTT Bank congratulated the Aruba Autism Foundation for their excellent work in our community.

The accompanying photos show bank President and Country Head, Mrs. Edna Farro, employees of the Bank, together with representatives of the Autism Foundation of Aruba, Mrs. Dilma Arends and Miss Thaisse Erasmus.

The Netherlands to close nine embassies

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands -- The Dutch government has decided to close nine of its embassies, according to Dutch daily de Volkskrant. The embassies affected are mainly in Africa and South and Central America. The closures are a result of budget cuts and a focus shift towards economic relations.

Foreign Minister Uri Rosenthal says he wants to

see a smaller and more flexible diplomatic service. Also, cuts to development aid in these countries will mean less need for local diplomatic service. Around 300 jobs will be lost - close to 10 percent of the diplomatic service.

In Africa, the Dutch embassies in Cameroon, Zambia, Burkina Faso and Eritrea will close. The embassy in Tanzania will be downgraded to an economic post. In Latin

America The Hague will shut its embassies in Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Uruguay.

But the government will also create diplomatic missions. In China, a consulate will be set up in Chengdu, the capital of the western province of Sichuan. Because of the commercial importance of the Panama Canal, a new embassy will be opened in Panama.

Joseph & Margaret Lynch honored at the Costa Linda Resort



Recently, Joseph and Margaret Lynch were presented with the honorary title of Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honor was bestowed on them as a token

of appreciation for their more than 10 years visiting Aruba.

The honoring was effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate

Ricardo Croes at the Costa Linda Beach Resort, their home away from home.

Picture shows Joseph and Margaret proudly showing off their certificate in presence of ATA rep Ricardo Croes and a Costa Linda Beach Resort associate.

Blackouts strike Caracas, northern Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AFP) -- Parts of Venezuela including Caracas and northern states suffered blackouts after the collapse of two high-voltage lines, the oil-producing country's electricity minister said.

In Caracas, Thursday's blackouts lasted a quarter of an hour, but power outages were much longer in several northern states, according to local press reports.

Electricity minister Ali Rodriguez told state television the blackouts were caused by the collapse of two high capacity lines.

Venezuela, the leading oil producer in South America, faced an unprecedented electricity crisis last year, which government opponents and ex-

perts blamed on a lack of investment and inadequate system maintenance.

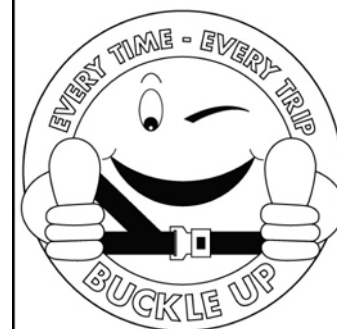
Venezuela meets domestic energy demand with electricity generated by Guri Dam, which in January 2010 was well below normal, prompting leftist President Hugo Chavez to declare an "electricity emergency" and nationwide rationing.

The rolling power blackouts across wide swaths of the country were halted last summer.

To avert another crisis, the government said last June that it planned to increase thermo-electric production by 5,900 megawatts by the end of 2010, from the then-current production of 16,500 megawatts.

REMEMBER

to



Buckle up

Ateliers '89 opens their newest exposition with a 2-day Souvenir Festival



Elvis Lopez and guest instructors

this workshop also included Suzanne van Spall, David Winklaar, Anjo Rotterveel, Adolfo Fernandez Villasmil, Priscilla Lacle, Janine Flanaguin, Julienne Paskel, Carina Wever, Davidson Tromp, Orlando Anastasia, Ferneli Romero, Maureen Woei, Wengmee Tang, Vera Croes, Nuris Lampe, and Facundo Franken. Also exhibiting their art during the festival were artists and former instructors

Ciro and

The bastion of Avant-garde art on Aruba, Ateliers '89, hosted a most unique and all encompassing event to showcase the latest collection produced by their most current workshops, a combined effort of two different projects by 4 visiting instructors. Tomas Adolfs, Tarja Szaraniec, Orpheo de Jong and Monica Tormell displayed their work along with that of their students, based on the concept of illustrating an important event, actual or imagined, in their lives. Works were first produced in a variety of 2-dimensional mediums, and



Sounds of Silence by Eefje van der Straten

on something of extreme personal significance to each artist. Student Wilfred Jansen created an entire environment called "Isolation Booth," which beckons visitors to experience his feelings of disassociation with the world around him. Noted artist Eefje van der Straten was also a participant, and her work reflects her enchantment and delight with nature, as she



Telka van Doodeward

then re-interpreted in sculpture, sometimes combined with works of other students to create a monumental work.

The presentation of results were couched in a multimedia festival of handicrafts, videos accompanied by island historian and archeologist Luc Alofs, and local cuisine prepared by noted island artist Osaira Muyale, who enjoys being creative in the kitchen, as well.

The new art will remain on display beyond the festival, and it is an interesting and highly visceral exposition, not surprising as the work is based

transmutes one of her paintings into a gentle and soothing work called "Sounds of Silence." The exposition is as diverse as the personalities of the artists and students; their works are revealing peeks at their attitudes towards life.

Students for

Miriam Abath, Ryan Oduber, Telka van Doodeward and Elvis Lopez, founder and director of Ateliers '89. The "souvenir" aspect of the opening event was punctuated by booths of handicrafts from Aruba Orocooco and a snack stand manned by "Dr. Coco Aruba," Betto Farro.

Ateliers '89 is located on Dominicansenstraat 34 in the heart of Oranjestad; it is open for classes and viewing of their latest exposition Mondays through Fridays from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For information and directions call Elvis Lopez at 588-5776 or 565-4613.

by Rosalie Klein



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Located in the heart of San Nicolas The Hollywood Smokehouse Diner brings southern-style BBQ and cuisine to Aruba

San Nicolas' newest restaurant opened this past Friday at Helfrichstraat 63, and brings to the island hickory-smoked barbecue for the first time. Now this is not just another restaurant offering barbecue. "Barbecue, by definition, is not meat quickly cooked on a grill—that's just grilled meat with some barbecue sauce on top... barbecue is meat cooked over low heat for a very long time, and imparting flavor with wood makes it 'smoked' barbecue," explains owner Mike Bislick.

Mike Bislick's fiancé, Tina Causey-Escobedo, is the Hollywood Smokehouse Diner's pit master overseeing this smoked meat art form. Tina was raised in North Carolina, where she grew up on that region's famous pulled pork barbecue. The process of smoking does take a lot of time, patience, and technique, but Tina believes it is well worth the end-result.

The Hollywood Smokehouse Diner currently has that famous Carolina pulled pork on the menu, as well as Texas-style beef brisket that Tina fell in love with in past trips to San Antonio, Texas. Tina and Mike had a mammoth smoker custom built for them in Oklahoma that holds some 250 pounds of meat. The process of smoking actually begins 24 hours prior to cooking it. The meats are coated in a rub of spices and left in the refrigerator overnight, then into the smoker they go for about 14 hours, where they will smoke

over hickory wood until tender enough to cut with a fork.

Tina's southern roots also inspired side dishes from her family's recipes and include baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, and to go with that Texas-style brisket she makes Tex-Mex rice and black beans. Many other items will soon be added to the menu, including daily specials of other traditional southern cuisine.

The Hollywood Smokehouse is located in a historic building in San Nicolas that has been in the Bislick family since 1941, when Mike's great grandfather opened it as The Hollywood Hotel. Mike and Tina decided to embrace the retro feel of San Nicolas and used a 1950's diner-style motif inside.

The Hollywood Smokehouse Diner is open for lunch from 11:30am to 2:30pm, Monday through Thursday, and for lunch and dinner on Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m to 9 p.m. For more information or directions call 733-3650.



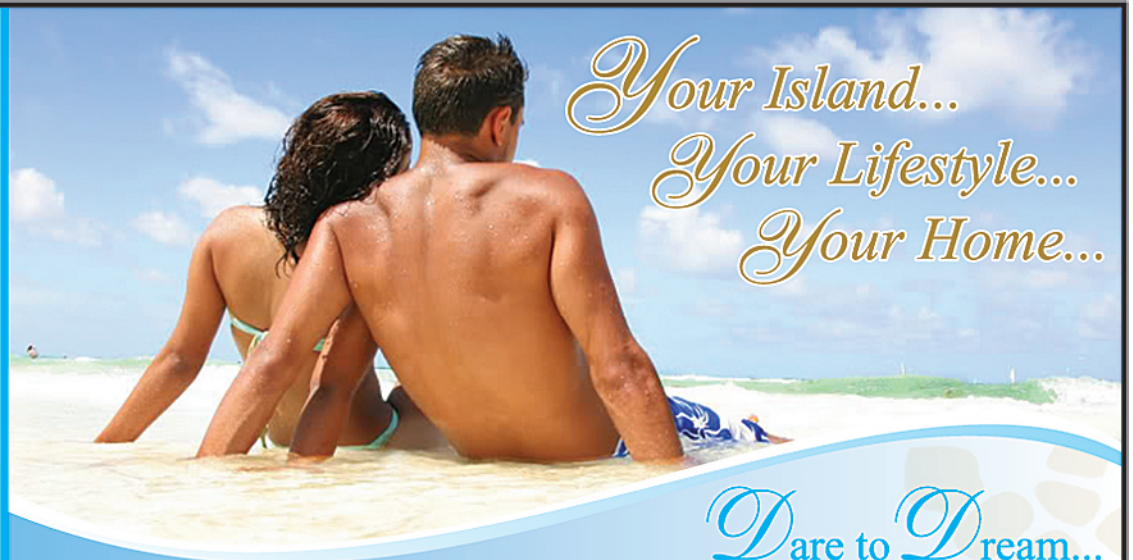
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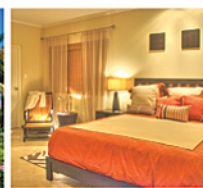
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First Carubian Festival tentatively scheduled to open May 5

Continued from page 1



The famous Charlie's Bar and surrounding buildings get a face lift

Visitors to the festival can elect to purchase snacks and drinks on site, or have them included in their initial entry fee. It will be open every Thursday evening from 6:00 to 10:00 PM.

The Carubian Festival Committee is also manned by Carlyle de Coteau, Leo Barenos, Antoni Gario, Robby Brown, Glanda Tomasi, who will curate the art exhibits, and

Deninah Martina, with Ruthlene Flemming acting as special P/R liaison with the Ministry of Tourism.

Other interesting insights into San Nicolas life will be representatives of the diverse denominations of churches that populate the town, as well as special interest groups such as sport unions and community centers, which will present how the town's residents inter-

act to maintain and support their community. Visitors to the fair are encouraged to immerse themselves in the authentic regional ambiance; one shouldn't be surprised to be invited to actively participate in a game of dominoes or learn how to play steel pan drums or perform the famously sensuous island dance moves that so delight audiences.

by Rosalie Klein

Your 'Healthy Barrio'...

Continued from page 1



The participants of the lecture and workshop received valuable information pertaining to the "Bo Barrio: Renobacion Integral di Bo Barrio" project (Your Barrio: Integral Renovation of Your Barrio).

Project Coordinator, Mr. Harm van der Seijp, gave an extensive presentation of all the developments regarding the project. This was fol-

lowed by group work where every section/department or organization in attendance discussed and deliberated together about what their particular department or organization could mean for the project. They exchanged ideas about what products or services they could offer their barrio to help inhabitants to improve on their health.

Sci-Tech

Sony adding music to PSP videogame gadgets



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) — Sony revealed that it was adding a streaming music service to PlayStation Portable handheld gaming gadgets next week.

A Music Unlimited service powered by Qriocity will let PSP users with PlayStation Network accounts tap into a library of millions of songs stored on computers in the Internet "cloud" beginning April 14, according to Sony.

PSP devices will need to be connected wirelessly to the Internet at "hotspots" to access tunes, according to the Japanese consumer electronics titan.

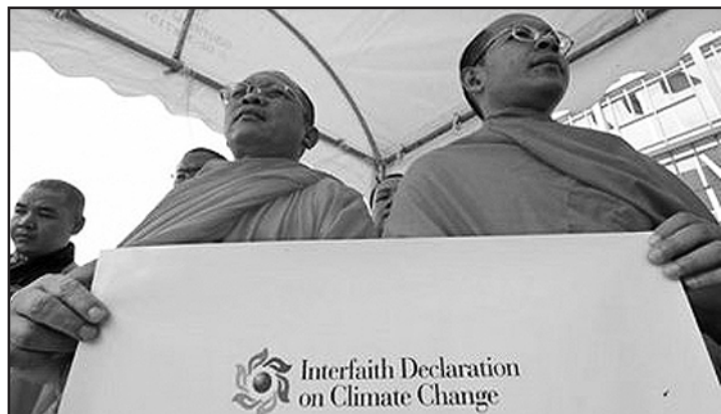
The service already

streams music to personal computers and an array of Sony devices including newer model Bravia televisions, Blu-ray disk players and PlayStation 3 videogame consoles.

"PSP owners can also enjoy a common and synchronized music experience on their PS3 systems as well as PCs and other network-enabled Sony devices without the need to manage or transfer music files," Sony said in a release.

Sony charges a \$3.99 monthly subscription fee for basic Music Unlimited service, which offers commercial free listening.

Rich, poor nations feud at UN climate talks



Buddhist monks gather during a demonstration in front of the United Nations Conference Center where delegates were holding UN climate talks, in Bangkok.

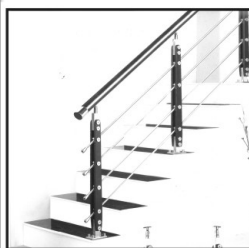
BANGKOK (AFP) — Rich and poor nations agreed Friday on a roadmap for UN climate talks this year, but only after long-running feuds flared over a wide range of actions they must take to combat global warming.

The four days of talks eventually achieved their main goal of sorting out an agenda for the rest of the year's negotiations, which will lay the foundations for agreements at an annual UN climate summit in South Africa in November.

But delegates were forced into heated debate as poor countries demanded a greater focus on long-term actions rich countries must take, particularly over cutting the greenhouse gas emissions that are blamed for global warming.

"We are content this strikes the right balance, we are disappointed it took so long to agree," Hungarian climate envoy Jozsef Feiler, representing the European Union, told fellow delegates after the roadmap was formally approved.

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Viewers seen taking power in connected TV revolution



CANNES, France (AFP) — Television is on the threshold of a revolution, with a plethora of mobile devices putting viewers firmly in the driving seat and opening up the possibility of a whole new connected entertainment world, digital and audiovisual industry leaders say.

"The audience is taking the power. If we want to do real connected TV, we have to let them be the boss," Gary Carter, chief operating and creative officer at FMX FremantleMedia, said at this week's MIPTV industry trade fair.

Driving the sea change have been innovations over the past 12 to 18 months triggered by the launch of Apple's tablet iPad, which offers both mobility and television quality images.

"The development of television, PCs, tablets, gaming devices, and mobile technology is changing the relationship between content providers and audiences. If companies can harness the multi-platform audience engagement they will be well positioned to reach audiences," Laurine Garaude, who heads up show organizer, Reed MIDEM's television division, said in Cannes.

But no one should write off traditional TV just for the moment.

"Overall, TV viewing has risen to record highs," Luke Bradley-Jones, managing director of BBC.com and Global iPlayer, told a MIPTV conference.

Connected television means that a family television set in the living room will be either Internet-enabled or have a set-top box that will allow it to navigate seamlessly between broadcast programming and the web.

"Potentially, this could completely change people's viewing habits," Mathieu Bejot, chief executive at TV

France International, which exports French audiovisual content abroad, told AFP.

The audiovisual industries are moving from one-way broadcasting to two-way dialogue, interactive content producer Robert Tercek, president of General Creativity, said at MIPTV's inaugural Connected Creativity global forum.

This year, he said, "is clearly the year that dozens of new devices are arriving that will enable a variety of new experiences at different price points."

Russian security service wants to ban Skype, Gmail

MOSCOW (AFP) — The Russian security service has proposed banning Skype, Hotmail and Gmail as their "uncontrolled use" could pose a security threat, a service official said during a government meeting Friday.

The comments from the head of the service's information and special communication centre Alexander Andreyechkin were disowned by the Kremlin but come amid mounting concern over state meddling in the Internet in Russia.

The Federal Security Service (FSB) is "increasingly concerned" by the mass use of these services, which use foreign-made encryption technology, Andreyechkin said, RIA Novosti agency reported.

"Uncontrolled usage of these services may lead to massive threat to Russia's security," he said at a meeting of the government's communication and technology committee.

Control of Internet traffic

through these services is done from servers outside Russia, and so they are often used by extremist organizations, Andreyechkin was reported as saying before the meeting continued without the press.

Deputy communications minister Ilya Massukh later said that recommendations on regulating the mass usage of encryption technology would be given to the government by October 1.

The FSB would like to ban these services in Russia because "security authorities cannot access them," Masukh was reported as saying.

Russian agencies quoted a Kremlin source later Friday as saying that Andreyechkin's statements were "his own opinion and don't reflect the government's policy regarding development of the Internet."

"Andreyechkin overstepped his authority and made hasty remarks about these popular services," the source said, RIA Novosti re-

Health & Living

Alcohol 'a major cause of cancer'



PARIS, France (AFP) — About one in 10 cancers in men and one in 33 in women in western European countries are caused by current and past alcohol consumption, according to a study released.

For some types of cancer, the rates are significantly higher, it said.

In 2008, for men, 44, 25 and 33 percent of upper digestive track, liver and colon cancers respectively were caused by alcohol in six of the countries examined, the study found.

The countries were Britain, Italy, Spain, Greece, Germany and Denmark.

The study also showed that half of these cancer cases occurred in men who drank more than a recommended daily limit of 24 grammes of alcohol, roughly two small glasses of wine or a pint of

beer.

The cancer rates for women in the same countries, along with the Netherlands and France, was 18 percent for throat, mouth and stomach, 17 percent for liver, five percent for breast and four percent for colon cancer.

Four-fifths of these cases were due to daily consumption above recommended limits, set for women at half the level of men.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has long maintained that there is a causal link between alcohol consumption and cancers, especially of the liver, colon, upper digestive tract and, for women, breast.

But few studies have tried to connect the dots across a large population between cancer rates and total alcohol consumption, or the proportion of the disease burden occurring in people who drink more than guidelines would allow.

"Our data show that many cancer cases could have been avoided if alcohol consumption is limited to two alco-

holic drinks per day in men and one alcoholic drink per day in women," said Madlen Schutze, an epidemiologist at the German Institute of Human Nutrition in Potsdam and lead author of the study.

The findings also suggest that the limits set by many national health authorities may not be stringent enough to avoid the disease, she said.

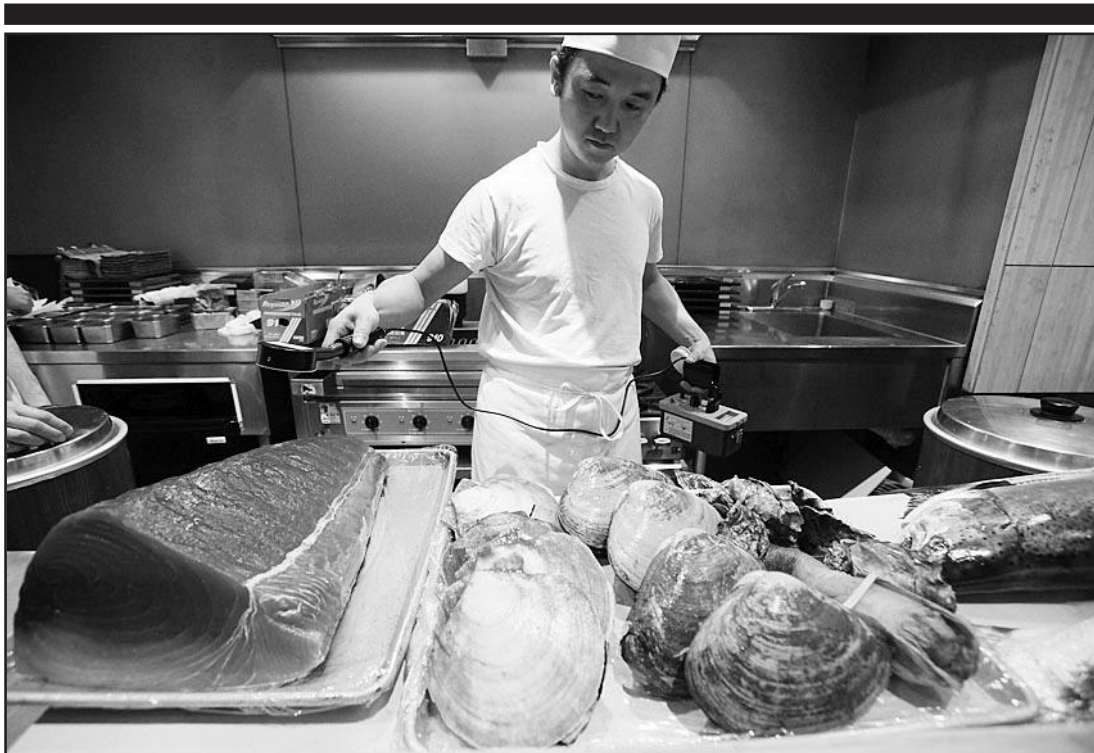
"Even more cancer cases would be prevented if people reduced their alcohol intake to below recommended guidelines or stopped drinking alcohol at all," she said in a statement.

The results, published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ), are drawn from the so-called EPIC cancer survey of 363,000 men and women who have been tracked since the mid-1990s.

Other risk factors that might have also led to cancer -- especially smoking and obesity -- were taken into account, the researchers said.

Nearly 44 percent of men in Germany exceeded the 24-gramme daily limit, followed by Denmark (43.6 percent) and Britain (41.1 percent).

Among women, Germany still topped the list, with 43.5 percent of women there exceeding limit, with Denmark (41 percent) and Britain (37.7 percent) coming in second and third.



NEW YORK, NY - : Sushi chef Mitsuru Tamura uses a radiation detector on seafood before it is prepared in Manhattan's Sushi Yasuda restaurant yesterday in New York City. The restaurant has begun using the detector as a precautionary measure due to consumer concerns over possible radiation contamination in seafood from the nuclear emergency in Japan. Health officials believe contamination is unlikely to threaten the food supply chain. (AFP Photo)

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Car pollution can damage brain



Tailpipe of vehicle is seen here

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Being exposed to highway pollution can cause brain damage in mice akin to memory loss and Alzheimer's disease, US researchers said.

Scientists recreated the airborne pollutants that come from the burning of fossil fuels and the weathering of car parts and pavement, and exposed mice to the harsh air for 15 hours per week over 10 weeks.

The tiny air particles were "roughly one-thousandth the width of a human hair, and too small for car filtration systems to trap," but exerted massive damage on the brains of the exposed mice, said the study.

"You can't see them, but they are inhaled and have an effect on brain neurons that raises the possibility of long-term brain health conse-

quences of freeway air," said senior author Caleb Finch of the University of Southern California.

Scientists found that the exposure resulted in "significant damage" to neurons involved in learning and memory, and they detected "signs of inflammation associated with premature aging and Alzheimer's disease."

The study is published in the peer-reviewed journal Environmental Health Perspectives.

More research is necessary to determine if the same effects could be seen in humans.

"Of course this leads to the question, 'How can we protect urban dwellers from this type of toxicity?' And that's a huge unknown," Finch said.

Garnier and Medicosmetics Aruba N.V. announce the first Garnier Beach Cleanup

Mediacosmetics Aruba N.V., exclusive distributors of Garnier has joined with Focus Magazine Aruba, 24ora.com and ITV channel 49 in organizing the First Garnier Beach Cleanup on Sunday, May 15.

Mrs Lizayra Tromp-Polak, Medicosmetics Aruba Sales & Marketing Manager and Regional Brand Manager Medicosmetic Group distributing L'Oréal, Garnier and Maybelline for the islands of Aruba, Curaçao and St. Maarten, outlined the upcoming project during a press conference on Thursday, April 7.

Garnier is a mass market cosmetics brand of L'Oréal noted for quality hair and skin care products. Much like other brands from L'Oréal, it is sold in several markets around the world.

A policy of supporting the local community has prompted Garnier to focus on Aruba's environment. The "Garnier Green Team" boasts enthusiastic support from respected island media sources Focus Aruba and 24ora.com. As part of their environmental awareness policy, Garnier is also making a donation to Turtugaruba, a local foundation dedicated to protecting the sea turtles that live, nest and mate around Aruba. With each purchase of a Garnier Fructis product between April 1 and May 15, a donation of 25 Aruban cents will go to the foundation.

"Garnier's slogan is 'Take



care". With this Beach Cleanup we want to help make the community aware of the importance of a clean beach and the protection and preservation of our turtles population," declared a company spokesperson.

Aurora Dijkhoff of Focus Aruba explained that as a magazine publisher there exists no doubt in joining forces

to help instill awareness among citizens on the importance of a clean beach.

Michael Carty of 24ora.com concurs that he is very enthusiastic about being a part of this Green Team and the online news providers are 100% for this Beach Cleanup, doing all they can to see it is a complete success. During the cleanup, 24ora.com will be present with its entire crew at Grapefield to participate as well as provide live coverage. A special page on their website will be dedicated to inform citizens on the project. The page will contain a picture of all groups or companies who will participate by joining Garnier's Green Team.

Garnier Green Team invites everyone to form their own group, either with office colleagues, friends, or family members. The cleanup starts at 8:00 a.m. at Grapefield.

For more information, readers may contact Mrs Lizayra Tromp-Polak on her mobile- 592-0121 or via email: lizayra.polak@curapharm.com

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Santa Rosa Center unveils new logo in preparation for Earth Day celebration



Unveiling of new Santa Rosa Logo



aspects of agriculture and farming, promote and assist islanders in cultivating their own crops, and provide seeds and seedlings for a variety of plants that fare well in Aruba's harsh horticultural environment. They also educate in maintaining goat and sheep herds along with pigs, which some still do as food sources. During colonial times, nearly half

of Aruba was a preserve for raising cattle.

The Earth Day celebration will be preceded by a week of seminars and workshops dedicated to Permaculture at center, with 8 presentations on the subject during the Open House. Doors open on April 17 at 9:00 PM and along with the various floras and fauna on display there will be musical and dance entertainment by groups Sodo y Cuero, Shining Stars, and Rincon Boys. Booths will be selling inexpensive local snacks and refreshments and there will be informative stands from a variety of environmental groups.

30 to 45 minute educational presentations are scheduled throughout the day. All are welcome and entrance is free.

Aruba's Department of Agriculture, Husbandry & Fisheries, the LVV, located at Santa Rosa, is a favorite destination for islanders when International Earth Day rolls around. The center will conduct their annual celebration of nature, which was designated to be April 22 by the UN; on Sunday, April 17, with an open house demonstrating the purpose of the facility along with a number of special and usually educational activities that are fun for all ages.

While announcing the upcoming event and detailing what is scheduled, Santa Rosa P/R Manager Nathalie Maduro invited Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber, to unfurl their banner for Earth Day 2011, bearing the colorful new logo for the center.

Santa Rosa's experts in all

by Rosalie Klein

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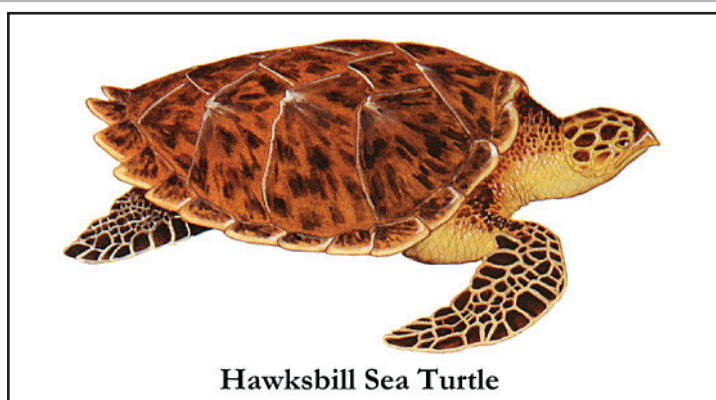
TURTUGARUBA

Turtugaruba is the local foundation that protects the sea turtles in and around Aruba.

Four species of sea turtles are found nesting on Aruba: Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*), Hawksbill Sea Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); Besides these four species an Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) was found in the waters around Aruba. All Caribbean sea turtle species are "endangered" or "critically endangered" and are on the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.

Marine turtle nests and eggs have been protected in Aruba by Law since 1980 and with the Nature Conservation Ordinance of 1995 the penalty for killing a marine turtle can be two years in prison and/or a fine of Afls 100.000 (\$55.500). So you will not find turtle soup or a turtle steak on the menu any more.

But on the Aruba of today we have to face other turtle threats like: loss of nesting habitats and feeding grounds due to coastal development and the problems of artificial lighting, driving on the



Hawksbill Sea Turtle

beaches and pollution.

In 1993 a Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan (STRAP) was developed and published for Aruba under the auspices of WIDECAS and the UN Caribbean Environment Program. With this STRAP as a guide line a group of volunteers worked ever since on the problems mentioned above.

The volunteers got organized in a foundation in September 2003. Turtugaruba is a NGO, a non profit organization that consists of a board, a field coordinator and about 25 volunteers. Turtugaruba is a member of WIDECAS (Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network), the regional network that includes more than 40 different Caribbean States and territories (www.widecast.org).

What are the annual activities of Turtugaruba?

1. Education and public awareness.

Turtugaruba interacts with the local Press, gives lectures for Park Rangers, hotel personal, dive operators, schools and the public in general; participates in local "open days," creates posters and flyers for sharing with both local and tourists; assists school children and students preparing papers and lectures at school, and is always (24 hours, 7 days a week) available at the Turtle Hotline (0297)-592 93 93. Information can also be obtained via email: turtugaruba@hotmail.com

2. Fieldwork, protection and data collecting.

During the turtle season the nesting beaches are monitored

every morning at daybreak. The highly developed hotel area at the west coast of the island is normally frequented by Leatherback Sea Turtles).

Eagle Beach is patrolled also at night, whenever a female Leatherback is expected to return for her next nest. In addition to the beach patrols the turtle nests at the West Coast are protected "in situ" during incubation (60-70 days) and hatching. The data of the nests and turtles are registered.

3. Contact with the Government and local NGO's

Normally Turtugaruba is invited by the Government to be present at the presentation of major coastal development projects. The foundation supports the plans for the implementation of the Coastal Zone Management (CZM). Turtugaruba is a member of the AHATA Environmental Committee and works together with other nature organizations like Stimaruba, Fanapa, Aruba Marine Mammal Foundation, Rainbow Warriors, Aruba Birdlife Conservation and Parke Nacional Arikok. The volunteers of Turtugaruba (and their families!) participate every year in the Aruba Reef Care Project (ATA) and the

AHATA Coastal Clean Up (but, of course, cleaning the beach is done every day on an individual base while monitoring for turtle tracks).

4. International contacts.

Turtugaruba is a member of WIDECAS. WIDECAS Country Coordinators for Aruba are Edith and Richard van der Wal, also members of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group.

Almost every year Turtugaruba participates at the WIDECAS Annual General Meeting and represents Aruba at the International Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation and Biology.

5. Sponsoring.

Although the "normal" expenses (gasoline, office supplies, field materials, cell phone, etc), and all of the time and energy are a "volunteer affair," some costs are too high to be paid by the volunteers themselves (e.g. organizing workshops with experts from abroad, building a retainer wall, printing of posters, flyers etc). So donations are very welcome and will be used for the protection and conservation of the sea turtles visiting Aruba. Aruba Bank account nr. 4006684.

Thanks!

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ACROSS

1. That female
4. Likely IRS worker
7. Needed a bandage
11. Candle ingredient
12. Kin of "oops!" (hyph.)
14. In ___ of (replacing)
15. "How ___ you?"
16. Actor's hope
17. Loafing about
18. Most pleasing
20. Director Howard

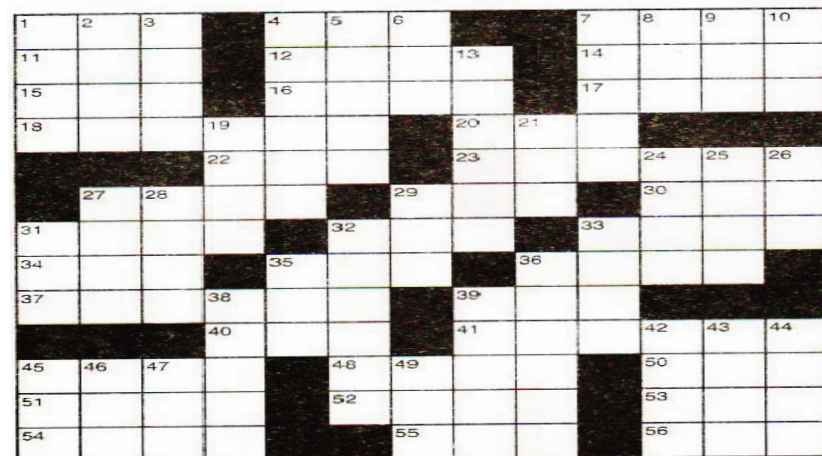
22. Author Tolstoy
23. IRS actions
27. Merge
29. Sandwich initials
30. Suit ___ tee (2 wds.)
31. Computer's input
32. Wonderland's ___ Hatter
33. Online journal
34. Self-concept
35. Eternity
36. Valley
37. Bring to a close
39. Small battery size
40. Grassy field
41. Weightlifters' noises
45. Office note
48. Conflict for

50. AFL's partner
51. Tel ___
52. Potter's oven
53. ___ king (2 wds.)
54. Assess
55. Not pos.
56. Swiss mountain

DOWN

1. Trumpeter
2. Mata ___
3. Big businessman (abbr.)
4. Used bad language
5. Scrapbook item, perhaps
6. Internet service

7. Venetian ___
8. Pan cover
9. Snaky fish
10. Owing
13. Royal announcer
19. "___ Enchanted" (2004 film)
21. Umpire's cry
24. "___ cost you!"
25. Implement
26. Slump
27. "The Gift of the ___"
28. Collar style
29. Forbid
31. Trio following C
32. Punk hairdo
33. ___ Brummel
35. Wind direction (abbr.)
36. Challenging
38. "___ a Parade" (2 wds.)
39. Able to move easily
42. March Madness org.
43. Embezzler's cash source
44. Lather
45. Disfigure
46. A Gabor sister
47. Major engineering school (abbr.)
49. Come in first place



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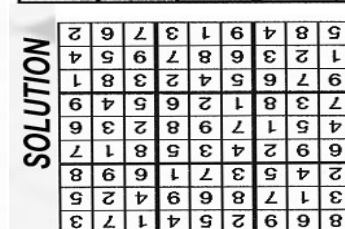
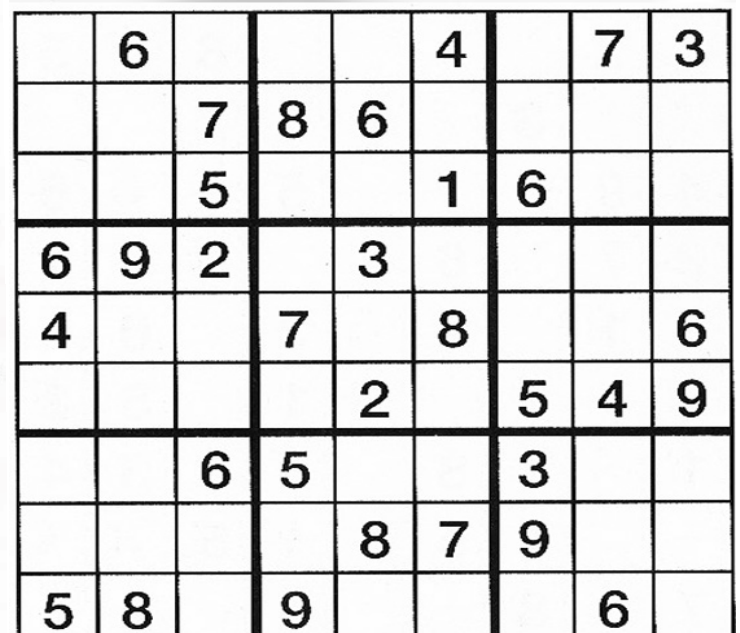
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A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Netherlands to cut 12,000 defence posts

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Dutch government said Friday it planned to cut 12,000 of a total 69,000 defence ministry jobs over the next four years but vowed it could maintain its international military commitments.

A NATO member, the Netherlands, has contributed forces to international operations in Afghanistan and the current mission in Libya, among other missions.

"Of the 12,000 job cuts, there should be 6,000 dismissals," Defence Minister Hans Hillen told journalists after a cabinet meet-

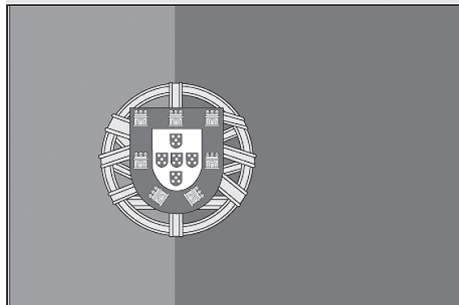
ing.

About 30 percent of the military's general staff was to disappear, he said, as well as about 100 Dutch posts in the NATO command structure.

The defence ministry has been tasked with cutting up to one billion euros (\$1.4 billion) from its budget by the end of 2014 under the centre-right Dutch government's cost-cutting scheme.

Rutte said the cuts were aimed not only at cutting costs but also at reorganising the military to make it "more efficient".

EU prepares 80 billion euro bailout for Portugal



GODOLLO, Hungary (AFP) - EU finance ministers on Friday thrashed out a multi-billion-dollar debt rescue for Portugal, demanding tough conditions as they try to draw a line under a destabilising debt crisis.

The third EU bailout to member states within a year will need to be around 80 billion euros (\$115 billion) EU finance commissioner Olli Rehn said.

Loans to Lisbon, after Greece and Ireland last year, will be conditional on more public spending cuts, tax rises and far-reaching privatisations -- negotiated with Portuguese politicians facing an angry,

fearful electorate around June 5 polls.

The decision to act was taken after outgoing Portuguese premier Jose Socrates threw in the towel on the eve of scheduled talks at a Hungarian castle and formally requested financial aid.

Like Dublin and Athens beforehand, the cost of borrowing for a caretaker government whose latest attempt to rejig its books collapsed in parliament last month comes as the EU is locked in controversial negotiations over a permanent rescue mechanism for wayward euro-zone states.

The aim is to set down binding rules once and for all, and contain debt contagion that some believe now threatens Spain -- an economy bigger than those of Greece, Ireland and Portugal put together.

Rehn revealed the "likely" final sum, worth \$115 billion, after talks in Godollo, 30 kilo-

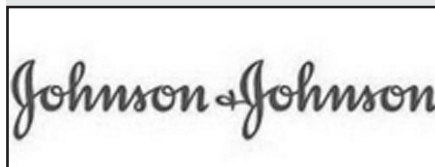
metres (20 miles) north of Budapest, that were joined by non-euro states including Britain, also locked into agreements to help EU rescue action.

One-third funded by the International Monetary Fund, the deal should be conditional on "an ambitious privatisation programme," as well as labour market reform and "measures to maintain the liquidity and solvency of the financial sector," Rehn said.

Ministers "invited the European Commission, the ECB, the IMF and Portugal to set up a programme and take appropriate action to safeguard financial stability" across the 17-state eurozone, Luxembourg Prime Minister Juncker said.

"Financial support will be provided on the basis that a policy programme will be supported by strict conditionality negotiated with the Portuguese authorities, duly involving the main political parties," he stressed.

Johnson & Johnson fined for bribing doctors



WASHINGTON (AFP) - US authorities fined cosmetics and drugs giant Johnson & Johnson \$70 million on Friday for bribing doctors in Europe and paying kickbacks for contracts under a UN relief program in Iraq.

The Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission said since 1998 the firm had paid doctors and hospital administrators in Greece, Poland and Romania for contracts and to promote its drugs and medical devices.

Johnson & Johnson also paid kickbacks between 2000-2003 for 19 contracts under the UN Oil for Food Program, which provided humanitarian supplies to Iraqis while the country, still ruled by Saddam Hussein,

The firm, the 15th largest US company by market capitalization, agreed to pay US authorities \$70 million to settle the charges, including \$48.6 million to the SEC and \$21.4 million to the Justice Department.

US prosecutor Mythili Raman that the company had "cooperated extensively" with the investigation.

"The message ... is plain -- any competitive advantage gained through corruption is a mirage," said SEC enforcement director Robert Khuzami.

"J&J chose profit margins over compliance with the law by acquiring a private company for the purpose of paying bribes, and using sham contracts, offshore companies, and slush funds to cover its tracks."

The charges detailed that J&J subsidiaries Cilag AG International and Janssen Pharmaceutica made \$858,000 dollars in payoffs to Saddam Hussein's

government to win \$9.0 million in contracts under the deeply corrupted Oil for Food Program.

"The kickbacks were concealed from the United Nations by inflating Janssen and Cilag's contract prices by 10 percent," they said.

The SEC said J&J was under a related investigation by Britain's Serious Fraud Office and that a resolution was also expected.



FRANCE, Montoir-de-Bretagne : A picture taken on April 8, 2011 shows the new French energy giant GDF Suez combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) plant in the French western city of Montoir-de-Bretagne, on its April 8, 2011 opening ceremony. The plant's capacity will be 435 MW and is built next to GDF principal LNG (liquefied natural gas) import terminal, on the French Atlantic coast.

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G	L	E	N	B	A	B	A	C	U
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M	O	I		T	E	T	E		A
A	N	N		S	A	V	E		L
N	E	G		D	A	D		S	A

The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban res-tau-

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cui-



Keshi Yena with plantains & vegetables

rant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

sine, "Keshi Yena" - "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu, made from whatever is in season.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!

Buster's Garage in South Beach Center: One place for the whole family family

Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and found a new home at the South Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the perfect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellow-pages-aruba.com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it -but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."

Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during playoffs and championships, they regularly carry

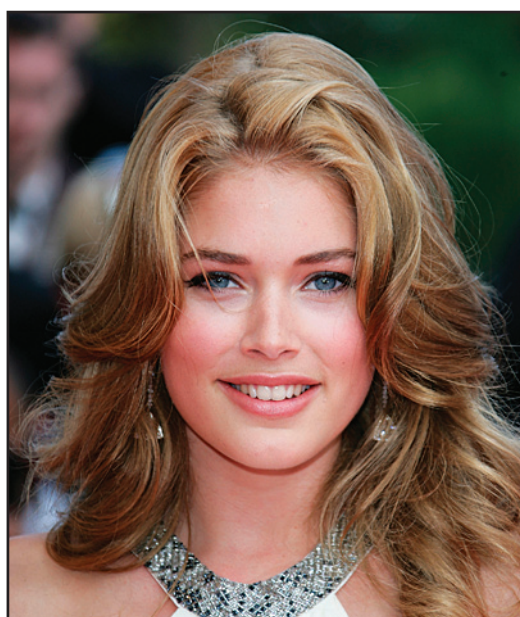


all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and res-

idents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 a.m., weekends at 4:00 a.m.

Model joins cast of first Dutch 3-D film



PARIS, France (AFP) - Top model Doutzen Kroes is branching out into film to appear as a 16th century cabin boy's love interest in her native Netherlands' first 3-D movie, the Het Parool newspaper reported on Thursday.

Directed by Reinout Oerlemans, the film -- due out in November -- recounts explorer Willem Barentsz's doomed third attempt to find the Northeast Passage in 1596, said the Amsterdam-based on its website (www.parool.nl).

Robert de Hoog, 22, recently cast in Steven Spielberg's upcoming film rendition of the stage drama "War Horse," plays the cabin boy who kept a diary of the ill-starred Arctic voyage.

Victoria's Secret catwalk star Kroes, 26, whose career shifted into high gear in March 2007 when American Vogue named her as one of world's top 10 new models, gave birth to her first child in January.

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Work set to start on long-awaited China Disneyland



A woman holding a child walks past a wall mural promoting Disneyland Hong Kong in Shanghai in 2009.

SHANGHAI, China (AFP) — Walt Disney Co. was expected to break ground Friday on mainland China's long-awaited first Disneyland theme park in hopes that Mickey Mouse and friends will prove a hit in the country of 1.3 billion.

Walt Disney Co. chief executive Bob Iger was expected to lead a ground-breaking ceremony in Shanghai, capping more than a decade of negotiations with the Chinese government to bring the Magic Kingdom to China.

Final construction approval was expected to be issued Friday for the 24.4 billion yuan (\$3.7 billion) project that Walt Disney Parks and Resorts Chairman Tom Staggs has called the "most exciting opportunity since Walt first bought land in Florida in 1964".

The theme park is expected to take five years to build, with Disney a minority shareholder in the project and government-run Shanghai Shendi Group Co. holding a majority stake, previous state media reports said.

The structure mirrors that between the Hong Kong gov-

ernment and Disney for Hong Kong Disneyland.

The Hong Kong park has had a bumpy ride since opening in 2005, with critics in the southern Chinese territory saying low attendance has not justified the public investment.

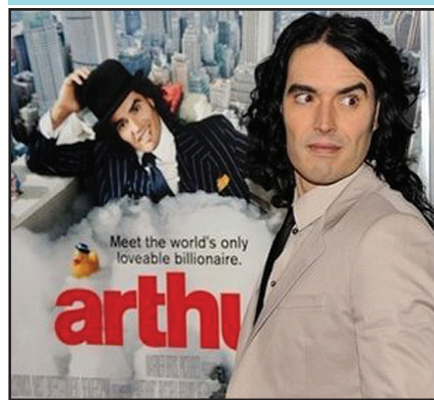
Mainland China is the biggest source of customers for Hong Kong Disneyland, accounting last year for 2.2 million visitors, or 42 percent of the total.

The Shanghai park will allow Disney to tap China's market like never before, attracting visitors who previously could not afford -- or found it difficult to obtain the required transit permits -- to travel to Hong Kong.

The park is also expected to help redefine Shanghai as a leisure destination instead of mainly a business city, travel industry experts said.

Initially, it will feature Disney's famed "Magic Kingdom", with the possible addition later of an "Animal Kingdom" and "Epcot" area. The Epcot centre is a showcase of world culture and technology at the Disney World Resort in Florida.

Russell Brand comes of age in 'Arthur' remake



LOS ANGELES, California (AFP) — Thirty years after Dudley Moore brought the world "Arthur," Russell Brand breathes new life into the drunken playboy, in what could be called a coming of age for the recently-married British actor.

The original "Arthur" took nearly \$100 million at the US

box office and won two Oscars in 1981: best supporting role for John Gielgud and best song for the Burt Bacharach theme tune "Best That You Can Do."

With the remake, out Friday in the United States before its release in Europe and Asia, Brand says he was aware of what he had to live up to in his performance.

"'Arthur' is a lovely film and Dudley Moore's performance is iconic. So not pressure, but duty. And it's a duty that we took very seriously," the flamboyant former stand up comic told AFP in Beverly Hills.

"I know the movie very well, it was one of my fa-

vorites when I was a kid... It was more a privilege that a pressure."

Arthur is a young millionaire playboy too busy partying in New York, accumulating romantic conquests or simply getting drunk to pay much attention to his family's honor.

But he is forced to take his duties seriously when his mother pushes him to marry the wealthy and suitable Susan, played by Jennifer Garner, just as he discovers true love in the arms of big-hearted but poor Naomi (Greta Gerwig). In the film, Arthur also has a guardian angel. In the original film, it was his butler Hobson (Gielgud). In the remake, Hobson changes sex, and is his governess, played by Oscar-winning fellow Brit Helen Mirren.

Almodovar ends six-year row with Spanish film academy

MADRID, Spain (AFP) — Oscar-winning Spanish director Pedro Almodovar is to return to his country's national film academy, six years after he quit in a row over the system of attributing its annual awards, his production company said.

Almodovar, Spain's best known filmmaker abroad but less well recognised by his peers in his own country, left the academy in 2005 along with his brother, producer Agustin Almodovar.

"We did not feel liked" there, Agustin Almodovar said at the time.

The brothers were angry over the system used by the academy to attribute the Goya awards, Spain's equivalent of the Oscars.

"The two brothers will return to the academy," a spokeswoman for his production company, El Deseo, said Friday.

She gave no further details, but the decision comes just days after the election of a new director of the institution.

The brothers quit the academy after the 2004 Goya awards ceremony, in which Alejandro Amenabar's "Mar Adentro" ("The Sea Inside") picked up 14 trophies but Almodovar's "La mala educacion" ("Bad Education") garnered none of the four Goyas for which it was nominated.

Relations between Almodovar and the film academy were already tense after his 1990 film "Atame!" ("Tie me up! Tie me down!") failed to win a single Goya despite



being nominated in nine categories.

However, "Todo sobre mi madre" ("All About My Mother") won seven Goyas in 1999, a work which also won

the Oscar for best film in a foreign language.

Almodovar also won an Oscar for best screenplay for the film "Hable con ella" ("Talk to Her") in 2002.



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Germany's Boy claims all-around European gold



BERLIN (AFP) – Germany's Philipp Boy claimed men's all-around gold at the European gymnastics championships on Friday with Romania's Falvius Koczi second, while Britain's Daniel Purvis and Mykola Kuksenkov of the Ukraine shared third.

Boy, 23, who serves with the German army, succeeds compatriot Fabian Hambuechen as European all-around champion with the 2007 world horizontal bar champion recovering from an achilles tendon injury.

"I can hardly believe I made so many mistakes and still won in the end, that is awesome," beamed Boy after his victory at Berlin's Max Schmeling Halle in front of 5,000 spectators.

"I really wanted this title, after the world championships in Rotterdam last year, I said to myself that I had to win in Berlin."

Boy, from Cottbus, east Germany, claimed his first major individual title with a winning tally of 88.875 points over the six disciplines to give him gold.

He was part of the Germany team which won the team gold medal at the European championships last year in Birmingham, England.

Romania's Koczi, who won silver on the vault at the world championships two years ago in London, claimed second with 88.825 points in a close finish.

Both Kuksenkov and Purvis shared third with 88.350 points.

Boy got off to a bad start on the pommel horse when he failed to get his legs under

control and finished with 13.825 points.

He had points deducted on the parallel bars, but improved considerably on the rings before making up ground on the vault and did well on the high

bars, his favourite discipline.

Boy made sure of gold with a strong finish in the floor exercises and will also compete in the floor exercises and high bar finals on Saturday.

Chennai launch IPL with close win




CHENNAI, India (AFP) – Chennai Super Kings pulled off a thrilling two-run victory over Kolkata Knight Riders in Friday's opening Indian Premier League Twenty20 match, watched by a capacity crowd and millions on television.

Chasing 154, Kolkata were cruising at 112-2 before losing five wickets for 35 runs to hand the defending champions a last-ball victory at the Chidambaram Stadium, which had hosted World Cup matches only a few days back.

Needing nine runs off the final over bowled by paceman Tim Southee, Kolkata could manage just six while losing one wicket. "We took some time to think about the last ball instead of rushing through it," said Southee. "We worked out our options and went for the right one with the field in mind in the end."

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who led India to World Cup victory last week, hugged his Chennai teammates as cheerleaders danced merrily in the background, marking a rollicking start for the tournament which was hit by scandals last year.

Jacques Kallis top-scored for Chennai with 54 off 42 balls. Kolkata were playing with just two foreign players with Australia's Brett Lee and Brad Haddin and Bangladesh spinner Shakib Al Hasan set to join the squad only after the end of a three-match one-day series in Dhaka next week.



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Golf: It's my time says Schwartzel



Charl Schwartzel plays his tee shot on the first hole during the final round of the Africa Open'2011

AUGUSTA, (AFP) - Charl Schwartzel believes that the time is ripe for him to add his name to the long list of South African major winners.

The 26-year-old from Johannesburg shot a second-round 71 in the Masters on Friday to keep himself in contention on four-under par at the halfway stage.

It was further proof that he is starting to fulfill the potential that he showed when he first start playing on the main European Tour eight years ago.

Since then, there have been South African triumphs in the majors for Retief Goosen with two US Open wins, Trevor Immelman at the Masters in 2008 and Louis Oosthuizen at last year's British Open.

Now Schwartzel wants to join them.

Asked if he had been keeping an eye out for how his fellow South Africans were doing in the second round, Schwartzel replied: "Not really. You have a lot of guys up there, you're not really looking at your fellow players or South Africans."

"For me, I'm trying to get myself in position to win. I've got to beat all of them if I want to win the tournament."

"You know, it's my time, if I play well"

Schwartzel is making just his second start at Augusta National, having tied for 30th place last year, and he is keenly aware that above all else it is a course that requires experience and patience.

So it was with some delight that he grabbed the chance last year to get some first-hand insight on how to handle it straight from the record six-time winner of the tournament, Jack Nicklaus.

"He took me through every single hole the way he used to play it when he played. You can't get much better than that," he said.

"We were having lunch, We started talking about hunting and he took me through the way he played 18 holes at Augusta."

Schwartzel has a win under his belt already this year at the Johannesburg Open and he has been one of the most consistent players on the European Tour with five top-10 finishes.

He has also been solid on the US PGA Tour, making the cut in all five tournaments he has played, although a tie for 14th in the Honda Classic is his best result to date.

Improving on that at the weekend would confirm that South Africa's latest golfing talent has what it takes to win a major.

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Police to increase Dodger Stadium presence

LOS ANGELES (AFP) – Los Angeles police will increase their presence at Dodgers home games after a Giants fan suffered brain damage when he was attacked after a game.

"You're going to see a sea of blue, but it's not going to be Dodgers blue. It's going to be LAPD blue," Los Angeles Police Department chief Charlie Beck vowed on Thursday. "This is going to be a game-changer."

Beck asked the team to pay for the deployment of uniformed officers, and a Dodgers spokesman said the team would cover overtime costs.

"We try to let venues take care of their own security," Beck said. "If they can't, I step in."

"I'm going to do what it takes."

Bryan Stow, a 42-year-old paramedic from Santa Cruz, California, remained in critical condition at a Los Angeles hospital a week after he was attacked in the Dodger Stadium parking lot by two

men wearing Dodgers attire. Stow was wearing a Giants jersey.

Police are still seeking the unidentified attackers.

A reward for information leading to an arrest has grown to \$150,000, with donors including the Los Angeles City Council, the Dodgers, the Giants, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich and Stow's employer American Medical Response.

The Dodgers have also hired former LA police chief William Bratton to study lighting, alcohol sales and other issues relevant to security.

"That's a long-term fix that will hopefully allow me to back off some of the uniformed deployment," Beck said.

The Giants have set up a benefit fund for Stow, contributing the first \$10,000.

Doctors said Stowe suffered a severe skull fracture and bruising to his frontal lobes in the beating that took place last Thursday.

Billionaire Gores to buy Pistons

DETROIT, Michigan (AFP) – The Detroit Pistons said Friday that billionaire California investor Tom Gores has reached a tentative deal to buy the NBA club from Karen Davidson.

The deal, which also includes The Palace of Auburn Hills and DTE Energy Music Theatre, must still be approved by the NBA.

Gores, a Michigan native, is the chairman and CEO of Beverly Hills, California-based Platinum Equity, also is buying the operating rights to the Meadow Brook Music Festival.

"I am very proud to have this opportunity to be part of such a tremendous organization," Gores said. "I grew up here, I am glad to be back and I am very excited about all the possibilities looking forward."

Davidson became the owner of the Pistons after her husband died in March 2009.

The Pistons won NBA titles during Bill Davidson's reign in 1989, 1990 and 2004 and were among the NBA playoff final four for six seasons in a row. But Detroit went 27-55 last season and have made no significant improvements this season.

Michael Phelps has eyes 'firmly on London'



ANN ARBOR, Michigan (AFP) – The latest step on Michael Phelps' road to the London Olympics brings the US Olympic swimming star back to familiar territory for the Eric Namesnik Michigan Grand Prix.

Phelps lived and trained in Ann Arbor prior to his unprecedented achievement at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, where he claimed eight gold medals to take his career tally to 14.

With the swimming World Championships in Shanghai looming later this year and the 2012 Olympics in London beckoning, Phelps was looking forward more than back.

"The light's at the end of the tunnel," Phelps said. "There are still a lot of things that I want to accomplish, and that's why I'm still here. If I didn't want to accomplish them, I wouldn't have come back."

Phelps will be joined in the field by other US Olympic stars including Natalie Coughlin, Jason Lezak and Ryan Lochte.

International swimmers entered include Brazilian Cesar Cielo, the Olympic 50m freestyle gold medallist and 50 and 100m freestyle world champion.

"It just shows that we're all sort of trying to prepare ourselves as best we can for World Championships and try to really get ready and geared

up for next year," Phelps said.

Phelps had a quiet 2010, as Lochte emerged as America's most dominant male swimmer. Phelps's coach, Bob Bowman, went so far as to dub

Lochte was the best swimmer in the world last year.

Phelps admitted that returning to the grinding training routine that brought him Olympic glory wasn't easy.

"Trying to get back into the routine... it's just the little challenges, when you don't do them for a while, it's hard to get back on it," Phelps said. "I've been able to make a lot of good improvements."

He's entered in seven events in Michigan, but was cagey about his precise plans for the meeting which started yesterday.



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Choi, Quiros share lead as McIlroy opens Masters chase



Choi (L), Quiros (R)

AUGUSTA (AFP) - South Korean K.J. Choi birdied three of the first six holes Friday to seize a share of the lead with Spain's Alvaro Quiros early in the second round of the 75th Masters.

Choi, who shared fourth in last year's Masters, birdied the par-5 second and par-3 fourth and sixth holes to reach eight-under par, where he stood at the turn.

Quiros, who began with a bogey, birdied the par-4 seventh and par-5 eighth to move level with Choi.

Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy, the first-day co-leader with Quiros at seven-under par 65, began with a par to remain only one stroke back.

South Korean Yang Yong-eun, who became the first Asian man to win a major title by capturing the 2009 PGA Championship, was fourth on six-under through 14 holes.

Yang began with a bogey but birdied the next three holes and briefly took sole possession of the lead at eight-under with a birdie at the par-5 eighth, only to drop with back-to-back bogeys on nine and 10.

The Korean righted the ship somewhat by parring his

way through Amen Corner, the dreaded 11th, 12th and 13th holes at Augusta National Golf Club.

McIlroy followed an opening 63 at last year's British Open with an 80 in the blustery winds of St. Andrews.

While breezes at Rae's Creek are unlikely to match the North Sea gusts in Scotland, the Ulsterman has learned how to keep a bad round from becoming an utter disaster.

"Looking back on it, it was a very valuable lesson in my development as a golfer," McIlroy said. "It's possible that I can go out and shoot another 65, but I know that it's also very likely that I'm not going to do that."

At five-under were Americans Ricky Barnes and 51-year-old Fred Couples, who had three birdies on the front nine and another at the par-3 12th to grab a share of fifth with Barnes.

Couples, who has struggled with chronic back trouble, led last year after 18 holes with an opening 66 but followed up with a 75. This year, he began with a 71 and birdied two, four and seven to hit four-under.

Barnes birdied the second and fourth holes and the par-3 sixth but stumbled off the lead with bogeys at the eighth, 10th and 12th before a birdie at the par-5 13th.

South African Charl Schwartzel, who played in the first group of the day, fired a 71 to seize the clubhouse lead at four-under 140.

Quiros, the longest driver in the field of 99 in round one with an average of 309.5 yards off the tee, missed the cut in both prior Masters starts and never fired better than a 75 at Augusta National before his 65 Thursday.

"My target is to make the cut," Quiros said. "It would be stupid to think to shoot 65 again because it's not my way - 75 was my best round here. It could just be one good round of golf."

Top-ranked Martin Kaymer, a German who has never reached the weekend at Augusta National, opened on 78 and looks set to again miss the Masters cut while Westwood, last year's Masters runner-up, opened with a 72.

Tiger Woods, a 14-time major champion chasing the record 18 majors won by Jack Nicklaus, teed off in the penultimate group. He opened with a 71 in quest of his fifth Masters title.

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Bonds trainer to be freed, jury deliberates

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Barry Bonds' personal trainer was ordered released from prison on Friday after being behind bars for roughly three weeks for refusing to testify in the famed slugger's perjury trial.

The order came about two hours after a federal jury began deliberating the fate of the US home run king, who is charged with lying to a grand jury investigating steroids in 2003.

Greg Anderson has consistently refused to testify about Bonds and steroids throughout the government's investi-

gation, spending more than a year total in federal prison as a result.

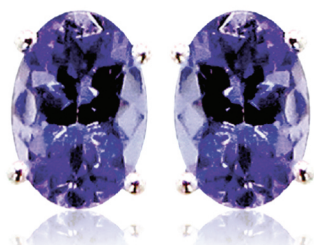
His latest spell in jail began on March 22, as Bonds' trial was getting underway.

Also Thursday, defense attorneys asked US District Judge Susan Illston to instruct jurors to disregard statements a prosecutor made in closing arguments yesterday.

The jury of eight women and four men are deliberating three counts of perjury and one charge of obstruction of justice facing Bonds.

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